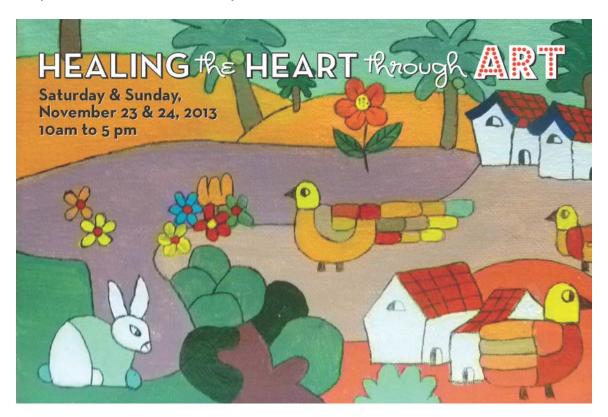
HEALING THE HEART THROUGH ART – ART IS A SOLUTION

By Stella Archer and Anthony Alvarado, LACDMH Northeast Wellness Center



The Los Angeles County Department of Mental Health's (LACDMH) award-winning Northeast Wellness Center's clients will be presenting their arts and crafts during the Arroyo Arts Collective's 21st annual Discovery Tour. The exhibit is being generously hosted by Future Studio Gallery (5558 N. Figueroa St., Highland Park, CA 90042) on Saturday, November 23rd and Sunday, November 24th from 10am to 5pm.

The Northeast Wellness Center artists are successfully rebuilding their lives. Our "Healing through Art" group fosters their creativity, self-expression, independence and personal vision. One of the artist members who has been diagnosed as having Schizophrenia Paranoid Type shared, "It hurt at first, but now the feeling of the pencil drawing on paper calms my nerves. It helps me with my illness." Another artist who had been homeless for several years explained, "It liberates my soul and expresses emotions that I cannot speak." And, another artist who had suffered the debilitating impact of having depression declared, "This is my passion, my healing therapy. Art is a solution."

The proceeds from the crafts and art sales will be donated to the Northeast Wellness Center's client council, Positive Visions. The council uses their funds to assist needy clients with loans, bus passes, food and other necessities. Just as importantly, they

organize field trips exploring the world outside Highland Park. The council has made it possible for some clients to enjoy the Getty Museum, Griffith Observatory, the bi-ways of Downtown LA, and to see the Pacific Ocean for the first time in their lives.

Come support the artists of Northeast Wellness Center in their restoration to healthy, thriving lives.

